

## FORUM OF THE WEEKLY PRESS

Rogers (Tex.) News: The reorganizer is a republican in the guise of a democrat.

Rockville (Ind.) Tribune: The Minnesota democratic platform needs no interpreter.

Bolivar (Mo.) Herald: Whenever a fellow gets to be a dead duck in the democratic party he at once becomes a man of some importance according to the republican press.

Sulphur Springs (Tex.) Democrat: The great mass of the democratic party believe in the principles of their party, as enunciated in their national platforms at Kansas City and Chicago, more strongly, if possible, than when they were adopted.

Upper Sandusky (O.) Chief: The Declaration of Independence was not read in the Philippines on the Fourth of July. As a substitute a proclamation was read, granting amnesty to the Filipinos who have been fighting for their freedom. What a change in principle in glorious America since we have colonial possessions.

Batavia (O.) Sun: Reaffirmation of the Kansas City platform by the coming state convention is not only right, but is expedient. To fail to affirm is, in the present situation, to repudiate. The 475,000 democrats of Ohio, who stood by the guns in 1896, while the reorganizers of today were sulking and skulking, will continue in control.

Fulton (Ill.) Journal: There is a widespread belief that the democratic party in Illinois has gone bankrupt on leaders. A lot of nine-spot high bolters, wreckers and boodlers have come to the surface, and are making a show of reorganization, but the rank and file of the party take mighty little stock in either their ability or sincerity.

Clarksville (Ark.) Herald: While the argument is going on as to what kind of a platform the national democracy should adopt at its next sitting, we will remark that we had rather see the party go down in dire defeat on a genuine democratic platform than to see it win a brilliant victory on an anything-to-get-there document dictated by deserters and indorsed by Wall street floaters.

Alliance (Neb.) Herald: According to advices from Washington shippers of whisky, beer and other spirituous and malted liquors, including tobacco, to the Philippines, are to have several million dollars, paid out by them in the shape of internal revenue taxes, returned. This in accordance with a ruling by the secretary of the treasury. But the thousands of American lives that have been sacrificed can't be given back.

Tarkio (Mo.) Independent: Grover Cleveland has joined forces with the reorganizers and he and David Hill, of New York, have had a love feast.

The reorganizers think that the democratic party needs reorganizing, but it don't. The trouble is with the reorganizers. They need conversion to democratic principles. When they begin to understand and advocate democratic principles they will discover that the democratic party does not need reorganizing.

Pekin (Ill.) Courier: The people of the Philippines as a whole may or may not be fitted for self-government, but the fact that considerable numbers of them resist tyranny is conclusive proof that they are intelligent enough to appreciate the fact that the policy which the administration is pursuing there in the name of the American people is in conflict with the ideas of liberty which have long been associated with the government and people of the United States.

Eureka (Ill.) Democrat-Journal: The huge corporations are not American. They have no patriotism, no country, no humanity. They put their plants in this country because of the immense natural resources which they can monopolize, and because our adamant tariff wall permits them to fleece 75,000,000 people at their will. And the most provoking thing about it is that the American people are so befooled by party cries, such as "protection to American labor," "sound finance," etc., that they vote right along for their own injury.

Franklin (La.) Vindicator-News: The rank and file of the democratic party stand for principles which alone can preserve the union—Grover Cleveland stands for principles which, if carried to their ultimate end, will wreck the republic. Clevelandism and republicanism differ only in the course they are traveling, but both tend to the centralization of the wealth of the country into the hands of the monied few, and both tend toward territorial extension, that the surplus wealth of that few may be put to profitable use in the exploitation of the countries of the conquered.

Windle's Gatling Gun (Chicago): The Boers did not contend alone with the British army, but the United States became a recruiting station for the enlistment of mules and horses, which did much toward overthrowing the republics. The American republic for the first time in its history stood up for kings. That ought to damn the republican party worlds without end. Teddy's special embassy will not only assist in the coronation of a king, but it will join in the jubilee over the death of two republics in South Africa. For this crime there will come a day of reckoning.

Cody (Wyo.) Dispatch: It is only a matter of time until every honest American will be in favor of abandoning the Philippine islands, and returning them to the Filipinos to whom they rightfully belong. A few more such speeches as was delivered by Sen-

ator Hoar a few days ago in the senate upon the situation in the islands, will, we hope, have a tendency to show the republicans the error of their way. There are lots of good, honest men in the republican party, and we believe that time will prove to them that the course which is now being pursued in the Philippines is wrong.

Whitewright (Tex.) Sun: The president has gone down to Oyster Bay and has evidently taken his press agent with him, for he is handing out some very warm thrusts at the trusts. It takes a shrewd man to know just when to be brave, but the man who waits until the danger is over to parade his bravery is not only shrewd, but wise. It would not look well for the president to have recommended anti-trust legislation while congress was in session; that body might have surprised him by enacting the legislation. However, the president is setting his vote-trap too soon. The bait may spoil.

Malone (N. Y.) Forum: There is only one kind of democracy in this country and there is only one place to find it, and that is in the last national platform of the democratic party. Any man who subscribes to that platform is a democrat and any convention that indorses it is a democratic convention. That supreme test of democracy is yet to come for those who now prate of "loyalty," and as they have allowed their party fealty to be suspected in two campaigns the only way to restore confidence in their allegiance is by an emphatic indorsement of the present creed of democracy at their state convention and the nomination of candidates in sympathy with that platform.

Red Wing (Minn.) Argus: Last thing before President Roosevelt left Washington for a well-earned vacation at Oyster Bay, he tipped it off to the newspaper correspondents that congress would pass a bill next winter "shackling cunning" by measures of publicity. Congress has been running in circles around the trusts shrieking. "Let me get at him," for several years and Roosevelt seems to have joined the procession, striking the trusts with his air bladder injunctions and threatening them with publicity. But not one of them proposes to take away their tariff privileges or forbid their subsidies.

Red Oak (Ia.) Sun: The Atlantic Democrat of last week had a column editorial expressing deep regret that William J. Bryan and Henry Watterson are so strongly opposed to Grover Cleveland and "harmony." If Cleveland stood for democratic principles, instead of the policies of the republicans copied from him, there would be some ground for harmony, and neither Bryan nor Watterson would then oppose or criticize. Democrats who remember the stinging defeats of 1894 and 1895, when the Cleveland crowd

were in authority and leadership in the party, and before Bryan became a national leader, have no longing for repetition thereof. They believe that a party that remains true to principle and that pluckily contends for the right will win quicker and that in winning something worth while will be won.

Frankfort (Ind.) Standard: It sinned, and bitter, bitter was the penalty! Cleveland stopped the trend of the people toward democracy. The country recognized the fact that, whatever its blunders, the democracy had never had the taint of Wall street corruption on its skirts till Cleveland was president. And so, when he was thrust out, six and a half million of men, bent on a restoration of power to the people, voted for Bryan and real democracy. Against them was directed all the forces that Clevelandism could muster—and Clevelandism, in the name of the republican party, too, and still holds, the helm of the ship of state. On the democracy rests the responsibility of ridding the country of Clevelandism. Will it be equal to the task?

Floydada (Tex.) Hesperian: The issue between the loyal democrats and the reorganizers is significant. The loyal democrats stand for the preservation and perpetuation of the principles of the Chicago and Kansas City platforms; the reorganizers are striving by stealth and deception to make the democratic party essentially a republican party. The issue is a broad one, and "the wayfaring man, though a fool, cannot err therein." Should the reorganizers succeed in capturing the democratic party they will have accomplished what Cleveland did for it—alienating those who believe stronger in principles than in spoils. Churches are weakened by having hypocrites, and so is the democratic party weakened by having those who believe stronger in the republican principles than in the Kansas City platform declarations.

Monticello (Ia.) Times: The democracy of Indiana, Pennsylvania and several other states at their recent convention failed to indorse the democratic platforms and have been lauded by thousands of republican editors for their wisdom and judgment. The democracy of Minnesota and Nebraska indorsed the party's national platform and have been fiercely assailed by the republican press. It is evident from this that the reorganizers have the assistance of the republican press in their work. It will be for the loyal democrat to decide whether he is ready to sacrifice the principles he stood by for so long and follow the leadership of men who are republicans in disguise or will put the seal of condemnation on the reorganization movement which can result in nothing other than putting it in line with the views of Wall street.